

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

THE EIGHTH UNITED STATES-JAPAN CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERCHANGE

Washington, D.C., May 28, 1976

I. The Eighth United States-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange was held in Washington, May 26-28, 1976. Delegates and specialists representing the governments, academic communities, mass media, businesses, political communities, foundations and creative arts of the two countries reviewed the state of cultural and educational interchange since the last Conference in Tokyo two years ago and agreed to a number of recommendations designed to deepen and widen mutual understanding.

II. The Conference agreed that cultural and educational ties between the two countries were at the heart of the overall U.S.-Japan relationship; that the single most effective means of strengthening that already vigorous relationship was to further improve the quality and variety of programs and exchanges over an increasingly broad spectrum of both societies. In this connection, the Conference was stimulated by the CULCON Symposium held in New York on May 24-26. This Symposium, held in connection with the Bicentennial, was sponsored by the Japan Society in cooperation with the International House of Japan. Its purpose was to "explore issues of significant concern to the cultures of Japan and the United States". Especially noteworthy was the Symposium's success in bringing together outstanding younger Japanese and American specialists for substantive discussion.

III. The Conference agreed on the vital importance of fostering dialogue between a wider spectrum of our two societies and found that the development of new intellectual communities, based upon common aspirations, but not necessarily similar experiences, is worthy of pursuit. In this connection, it was agreed that the 1977 Joint Committee should consider organizing in 1978 a Symposium or similar event involving representatives from various segments of our two societies. It was suggested that this event should involve the mass media in such a way as to maximize its impact on both societies.

IV. The Conference welcomed the establishment in October, 1975 of the United States-Japan Friendship Commission which now joins the Japan Foundation, established nearly four years ago, as a new and major contribution to expand cultural relations between the two countries.

/V. Recognizing

V. Recognizing the need to more fully utilize the varied experience of its Panel members on both sides, and to plan future CULCON activities with a clearer understanding of areas of cultural communication needing attention, the Conference agreed that:

1. The Joint Committee on U.S.-Japan Cultural and Educational Cooperation, meeting in the years between these biennial Conferences, would set aside time for discussion of future developments in our two cultures.
2. A survey would be undertaken in both countries to identify possible structural impediments inhibiting a smooth flow of cultural exchange and communication, for consideration by the 1977 Joint Committee meeting.

VI. The Conference, in keeping with earlier CULCON discussions, agreed to establish Library and News Media Subcommittees and to further consider formation of a separate Television Cooperation Subcommittee.

VII. In order to achieve a sharper focus and more effective collaboration by both sides, the Conference agreed upon a "Statement of Mission" for each of the Subcommittees, describing also current areas of emphasis.

VIII. Recognizing the increasing exchange of business and professional representatives between the two countries, the Conference discussed the need to assure that in each country there are adequate programs providing training and orientation on the society and culture of the other. Several reports describing current programs in Japan and the United States were submitted to the Conference. The Conference expressed the hope that this subject would be considered at the Japan-U.S. Economic Council meeting in Japan in June, 1976. It offered to cooperate with the Council in this endeavor. It further agreed to discuss developments in this area at the 1977 meeting of the U.S.-Japan Joint Committee on Cultural and Educational Cooperation.

IX. In the course of deliberations by various Subcommittees, it became clear that the number of translated works of a literary and scholarly nature from Japanese into English remains seriously inadequate. The Conference recommended that both sides explore means of alleviating this situation on a systematic basis, including the possible establishment of a joint mechanism to this end. It was agreed that progress in this area would be reviewed at the 1977 Joint Committee meeting.

/X. Recognizing

X. Recognizing that eight years of experience with Joint Committee activities has led to certain minor modifications in Committee operations; and being aware of the need to describe more clearly the relationship between the Joint Committee and CULCON meetings, the Conference recommended that both governments clarify certain essentially administrative aspects of the 1968 Exchange of Notes.

XI. The Conference considered a series of topics in the following areas of specialization:

A. American Studies

The Subcommittee notes with deep regret the passing of one of its members most fondly regarded in Japan and the U.S., Professor Norman Holmes Pearson of Yale.

Since the 1975 Joint Committee Meeting, the most important single event was the Bicentennial Conference on American Studies hosted by the Japanese Association for American Studies for the Asia and Pacific area. From September 4-7, 1975, some one hundred scholars gathered in Fujinomiya to discuss the American Revolution, the meaning of America to that portion of the globe, and American Studies methods. Proceedings have already been published in Japanese and at least some of the papers will also appear in English.

The extraordinary success of that conference was a primary topic of the Subcommittee as it was convened in the Foreign Ministry, Tokyo, September 8, 1975. Other primary concerns were the remarkable proliferation of American studies in Japan, as revealed by the survey sponsored by the Fulbright Commission, and the future of the Kyoto American Studies Seminar.

The Subcommittee has concurred on a revised statement of mission which expresses both a theoretical rationale, as well as a sense of priority issues.

The Subcommittee was pleased to have contributed in some measure to the Symposium of May 24-26, 1976, at Japan House in New York City. We feel that this series of meetings confirms a direction of interest the Committee has consistently sought to encourage: namely comparative study and cooperative projects involving groups, individuals, and institutions in the two cultures.

The Subcommittee, both as a group and as a collection of individuals, has continued to involve itself in teaching,

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research, and publication which bear on the improved understanding of American culture from the Japanese point of view and which elicits cooperative efforts and comparative results.

Recommendations:

1. Secure support for the Kyoto American Studies Summer Seminar.
2. Achieve the translation into English and publication of Japanese works dealing with American civilization.
3. Realize full regional participation in American Studies International as it endeavors to facilitate regular communication between non-American scholars in American Studies.
4. Develop an agenda of mutual interests with both the Japanese Studies and the Library Subcommittees.

B. Education for International Understanding

The Joint Subcommittee on Education for International Understanding developed a project designed to provide a framework of significant ideas pertinent to a greater mutual understanding of both Japan and the United States. The project brought together small teams from each of these countries made up of educators and scholars from U.S. and Japan. The goal of the project is to produce a thematic, conceptual structure upon which will be based accompanying instructional materials that will promote mutual understanding and awareness among Japanese and United States elementary and secondary school teachers and students.

To achieve this end, a Meeting of Representative Experts on Education for International Understanding was held in March, 1975 at the East-West Center in Hawaii. The schedule and methods of implementing the proposed three-year joint project were discussed. Subsequently, the Phase I (Japanese-American joint workshop in the summer of 1975 in Hawaii) and the Phase II (field research in each other's country) were undertaken. Each team is currently preparing a report on the findings.

In the summer of 1976, a workshop will be held at Duke University (North Carolina) where the experts of the two countries will review the first drafts and prepare final versions of materials for use in schools.

/The Joint

The joint project, which has thus far been successfully implemented, has achieved, among others, the following two objectives: (1) A teachers' manual and resource materials, the first of this kind to better understand each other's country, are currently being developed in Japan and the United States respectively; and (2) the project has greatly stimulated interest in the need for understanding each other's country, while concurrently marking great progress in developing specific ways and means both in research and training.

Recommendations:

1. This three-year project should be regarded as only a beginning for a long-range project in this kind of effort. Thus, it is of utmost importance to capitalize on the achievements of this project and to undertake further practical research in each of the two countries on several important problems which have been identified in the present on-going research project. In relation to this, a new program should be considered jointly and/or in each country promoting education for mutual understanding between the two peoples. It is hoped that feasibility of following projects will be considered in this regard: (a) The Japanese side would inventory existing programs of educational materials development in Japan as a basis for possible joint efforts in making selections for use in promoting international understanding in the American educational system; and (b) Establish effective ways to expand and improve the exchange of teachers, students (especially those of teachers' colleges), teachers' education, and educational administrators; also, to prepare adequate facilities for hosting visitors to each other's country.
2. Based upon the significant progress achieved by the cooperative effort of the Joint Education Subcommittee to date, it is hoped that the natural relevance of the follow-up activities proposed for the future would lead to positive consideration by various organizations whose financial assistance might be required.

C. Japanese Studies

Responding to an invitation extended at the meeting of the Joint Committee in Hawaii last summer, the Japanese Government sent a high level Survey Mission to the United States for a three-week period this Spring to study and report

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on the state of Japanese studies in America. Some six organizations and twenty-four universities were visited.

Parallel with this Mission, the American Japanese Studies Subcommittee commissioned a questionnaire which was sent to all institutions known to be engaged in Japanese studies in the United States. An interim draft of their findings was made available to the Survey Team.

The analysis of data and the sorting out of impressions is still in progress, but preliminary reports of both surveys were presented at CULCON VIII. That the area of Japanese studies had expanded significantly was obvious. Over the past five years, while American higher education generally registered a growth of enrollment of only 14%, Japanese language course enrollments, for example, have gone up three fold; and the number of American institutions offering courses on Japan has climbed over the same period by 40% to reach nearly 200.

On the other hand, even a preliminary analysis of findings reveals a number of problem areas. Attention must be given to: (1) Assisting institutions with minimal Japanese programs; (2) Expanding Japanese language libraries; (3) The improvement of Japanese language instruction; (4) Checking the erosion of interest in the social sciences; (5) Supporting publications of research finds; and (6) The more effective introduction of Japanese studies into the secondary school system and also institutions training practitioners in business, law, journalism, education and other professions.

Recommendations:

1. Each Subcommittee should revise its draft report for wider distribution. Thereafter, both Subcommittees might consider singularly and together what steps and priorities should be taken to advance Japanese studies in America. The two Subcommittees have, however, already identified certain areas for future attention. These areas include: (a) The identification of abstracting, translating and other services needed to improve the accessibility in the United States of the products of Japanese scholarship; (b) The determination of how Japanese studies can more effectively be integrated into the education of businessmen, lawyers, journalists, secondary school educators and other professionals in the United States; and (c) The study of the adequacy of facilities in Japan for visiting American students, researchers and teachers.

/2. In areas

2. In areas of overlapping concern, the Subcommittee looks forward to close cooperation with the American Studies, Library and other CULCON Subcommittees.
3. The need is recognized to expand joint research activities and stabilize their financing, particularly through the program recommended earlier to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the Social Science Research Council and American Council of Learned Societies, and the two Subcommittees have agreed to include concern for such joint research as an ongoing part of their responsibilities.

D. Library

The Joint Committee on U.S.-Japan Cultural and Educational Cooperation meeting in Hawaii, June 21-23, 1975, recommended inter alia the establishment of a Library Subcommittee "to improve access of Japanese to American material and American access to Japanese materials", and suggested that the Subcommittee, when established, should maintain close liaison with other CULCON Subcommittees in the formulation and implementation of library programs.

A joint preparatory conference, held in Kyoto on October 27, 1975, discussed the following general areas of possible activity though without agreement on priorities: (1) Inter-change of personnel and publications; (2) Inter-library cooperation; (3) Japan documentation center/American documentation centers; (4) Specialized bibliographies; and (5) Other areas of binational cooperation in library and information science.

In a subsequent exchange of views, a statement of mission and functions was agreed upon incorporating the following points: (1) The basic mission should be to strengthen mutual understanding through encouragement of improved library services relating to the two countries; and (2) The basic functions should include improving access to library materials, assisting in the development of quality collections for the study of Japan and the U.S., encouraging the exchange of professional ideas, information, and library materials, and the publication of specialized bibliographies.

Recommendations:

1. The Library Subcommittees, working closely with other CULCON Subcommittees, and other existing organizations and committees in both countries, should seek to accomplish the above stated mission.

/2. The question

2. The question of current emphases should be determined after further study by the Subcommittees, in consultation with each other. This process should take into consideration special needs as identified and expressed by interested parties inside and outside CULCON, and be carried out in full awareness that unique library and information needs in the two countries require differing responses as appropriate.

E. Museum

The Subcommittee on Museum Exchange is pleased with the progress made since CULCON VII. Tangible evidence of this progress is found in these specific activities: (1) The Japan Bicentennial exhibition of "Collected Masterworks from Art Museums of the United States", now being developed under the leadership of the Cleveland Museum of Art with the important cooperation of the Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan; (2) The first meeting of the study group on the Care of Works of Art in traveling exhibitions and the drafting of a tentative report; (3) The enactment by the Congress of the United States (and signed into law by the President of the United States) of legislation providing a program of insurance for art exhibitions brought to the United States and for exhibitions from the United States under certain conditions; (4) The increase in the number of one-man shows and smaller exhibitions being exchanged by both nations; and (5) The plans now under development for further exchanges in the months and years ahead.

While much remains to be done to encourage the continued growth of museum exchange programs between the two countries, the progress is pleasing, substantial, and the projects encouraging.

Recommendations:

1. Implementation of the major Bicentennial exhibition in Tokyo.
2. Development and implementation of the Shinto art exhibition which will be sponsored in the United States by the Japan Society and the Seattle Museum.
3. Finalization of the report from the study group on the care of works of art in traveling exhibitions. This may require a second meeting to resolve outstanding issues. After this adjustment is achieved, the results should be widely disseminated to institutions in both nations.
4. Encouragement of an expanded program of museum exchanges between the two countries and a monitoring of such activities.

/F. News Media

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Following discussions at the Joint Committee Meeting in Hawaii in June 1975, thorough consideration has been given to the formal establishment of a joint Subcommittee in the News Media area.

The exchange of journalists has continued to move forward with the realization of the fifth meeting of Japanese-American Editors, as sponsored by the International Press Institute, which was held in November, 1975 at Wingspread, Wisconsin.

Finally, it was noted that a limited number of U.S. news editors took advantage of the exchange program with visits in Japan in March, 1975 and that a group of Japanese news editors came to the United States for the counter-part orientation program in November, 1975.

Recommendations:

1. Members of the Subcommittee should periodically assess the various exchange programs concerned with the media, with a view toward the improvement and expansion of these programs, both in intensity and scope and degree of coverage.
2. Full utilization be made of The Japan Foreign Press Center which is scheduled to be opened this coming October in Tokyo's Nippon Press Center. This institution will assist the news gathering activities of correspondents from all countries.

G. Television

The third U.S.-Japan Television Program Festival was held in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with the 51st National Convention of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters from November 16th to 19th. A Japanese delegation of 15 television executives attended the Festival and also participated in the Fourth U.S.-Japan Broadcasting Executives' Joint Conference on November 21 in New York at Japan House.

Fifteen sister-station relationships, six of which had been newly realized since the last Joint Committee meeting, have been established. It was agreed to work toward the regular publication of a newsletter dealing with sister-station activities.

/During the past

During the past year, PBS broadcast the 60-minute program, "Tenno", produced by the BPCJ for the Japan Foundation. It was broadcast on the eve of the Emperor's arrival. The series entitled "The Japanese Film" has been distributed nationally by PBS for a second time in the winter of 1976. The series "Journey To Japan" was rebroadcast for in-school use in the fall as well.

The production of the TV "Japan Study Course" by University of Mid-America has progressed with the cooperation of the Hosokawa Bunka Foundation, the Japan Foundation, NHK and commercial stations. By March, 1976, six pilot programs (30 minutes each) were completed, and the American productions team visited Japan two times to collect materials. This series is expected to be completed early next year.

Recommendations:

1. The establishment of a Japanese Subcommittee similar to the existing American Subcommittee will be considered after consultation with the Broadcast Programming Center of Japan (BPCJ), the Japanese secretariat for Television Cooperation which has been functioning as a Subcommittee.
2. For the Fourth Television Program Festival, representatives of the country in which programs are intended to be shown should be involved in a pre-screening of programs. This pre-screening would be for the purpose of giving suggestions and advising on the most suitable American and Japanese programs to be shown at the Festival.
3. During the Fourth Festival, further exploration of issues related to the professional concerns of television executives could be made. In this respect, discussion of news presentations and visits to experimental television laboratories might be of interest and stimulate further exchange.
4. Time should be allocated during the Fourth Festival for visits to sister-stations by the American broadcasters to continue and further cultural exchanges.

XII. A list of CULCON delegates from the United States and Japan follows:

American Panel

John W. Hall
Chairman, U.S. Panel
Chairman, Department of History
Yale University

Carl Gerstacker
Chairman of the Board,
Dow Corning Company

Philip C. Habib
Assistant Secretary of State for
East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Robert Letts Jones
President (retired)
Copley Newspapers

Eugene P. Kopp
Deputy Director,
United States Information Agency

James A. Linen
Director
Time Incorporated

James W. Morley
Chairman, Dept. of Political
Science
Columbia University

Roger D. Rice
President
TV Bureau of Advertising

John Richardson, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State for
Educational and Cultural Affairs

Isaac Shapiro
President
Japan Society, Inc.

Virginia Y. Trotter
Assistant Secretary for Education,
Department of Health, Education &
Welfare

Durward Varner
President
University of Nebraska

Japanese Delegates

Yoshinori Maeda
Chairman, Japanese Delegation
Honorary Advisor, NHK

Isao Amagi
Executive Director
Japan Society for the Promotion
of Science

Naoya Uchimura
Playwright

Takashi Oyamada
Managing Director
The Japan Foundation

Seiya Nishida
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary to the U.S.

Masaaki Kasagi
Executive Director
Japan Newspapers Association

Makoto Saito
Professor, Faculty of Law
University of Tokyo

Takashi Sengoku
Deputy Consul General
Consulate General of Japan
in New York

Akira Nakayama
Director General
Dept. of UNESCO and International
Affairs,
Ministry of Education

Hajime Nishimiya
Director General
Cultural Affairs Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Sukenaga Murai
President
Waseda University

Takashi Yoshida
Education Systems Executive
Sony Corporation

Yoichi Maeda
Professor Emeritus
University of Tokyo

Hisanari Yamada
Member of the House
of Representatives